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Applicant/Proprietor ArthroCare Corporation	

### Communication

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the supplementary European search report under Article 153(7) EPC for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

- ☒ 0 additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

### Refund of the search fee

If applicable under Article 9 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.



**SUPPLEMENTARY  
EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number  
EP 02 77 3432

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	WO 01/24720 A (ORATEC INTERVENTIONS INC [US]; SHARKEY HUGH R [US]; STRUL BRUNO [US];) 12 April 2001 (2001-04-12) * the whole document *	1-10	INV. A61B17/20 A61B18/18
X	US 5 697 882 A (EGGERS PHILIP E [US] ET AL) 16 December 1997 (1997-12-16) * column 23, line 1 - column 24, line 5; figure 20 *	1-10	
X	US 6 254 600 B1 (WILLINK CHRISTOPHER L [US] ET AL) 3 July 2001 (2001-07-03) * the whole document *	1-10	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			A61B
The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and available at the start of the search.			
Place of search <b>Munich</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>11 December 2008</b>	Examiner <b>Schöffmann</b>
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone  Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category  A : technological background  O : non-written disclosure  P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention  E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date  D : document cited in the application  L : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>&amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 02 77 3432

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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